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# DESIGN FOR A COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

BY

LEONARD FRED STUEBE

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THESIS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

IN ARCHITECTURE

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

PRESENTED JUNE 1903



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THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE THESIS PREPARED UNDER MY SUPERVISION BY

LEONARD FRED STUEBE, under the direction of Professor Temple,

ENTITLED DESIGN FOR A COLLEGE AUDITORIUM

IS APPROVED BY ME AS FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE  
OF Bachelor of Science in Architecture.

*C. Clifford Rickes*

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF Architecture.



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## A COLLEGE AUDITORIUM.

This thesis is a solution of a modern auditorium or assembly hall to fulfill the conditions existing at the University of Illinois, this description being accompanied by the following rendered drawings:

1. Main Auditorium Floor Plan.
2. Second Floor and Ceiling Plan.
3. Principal Elevation and Front.
4. Rear Elevation.

The drawings are all drawn to a uniform scale of one sixteenth inch equals one foot on two sheets each 25" x 38".

At present the University has no such building upon it's campus, though the need of one has long been greatly felt. There are at the present time about twenty four hundred local students and a general faculty of two hundred. The attendance is increasing at the rate of several hundred each year.

The purposes of such a building and the uses it would fulfill are somewhat varied. Here chapel would be held, and all University Convocations and affairs of a like nature where the students and faculty and their friends would be present, such as enthusiasm meetings, class meetings, the annual Glee and Mandolin Club concert, the University Band concert, the annual plays presented by the Opera Club and the German Club, the various numbers of the Star Lecture



course and the May Festival. For the latter event special arrangements are necessary for the accomodation on the stage of a chorus of about two hundred and an orchestra of forty five or fifty. In this building would also be held the annual Commencement exercises and the Alumni Banquet.

The requirements for such a building were considered to be as follows:

1. A main audience room which with two galleries would seat three thousand people.
2. A stage capable of seating a chorus of five hundred and an orchestra of one hundred. This stage is not primarily intended for theatrical presentations.
3. Ample stairways to galleries so arranged that they can be emptied without congestion at any point.
4. A grand entrance vestibule of about 5,000 sq. ft.
5. Two ticket offices in connection with the vestibule.
6. An assembly room of 5,000 sq. ft. situated behind the stage.
7. Two smaller rooms of 1,000 sq. ft. each, near the stage.

These last three rooms should be so arranged that they could be conveniently used for holding small meetings.

8. A banquet hall of about 4,500 sq. ft. with the necessary coat and serving rooms in connection.





3.

9. Twenty individual dressing rooms each 8' x 10' in size.

10. Four toilet rooms conveniently yet inconspicuously located, two being for the general public and two convenient to dressing rooms.

11. Ample storage for seats etc. necessary on the stage when it is filled.

12. An orchestra pit in front of stage, conveniently accessible for the musicians.

Easy communication should be provided between the various rooms behind the stage and the auditorium proper.

As will be seen by referring to the accompanying drawings, the building is entered through three grand triple entrances into grand vestibule across which is the foyer containing the monumental stairways to the galleries above. The main auditorium is semi-circular in plan and contains a tier of six boxes on either side of the stage and is provided with two galleries. Besides the entrance from the foyer there are large triple entrances with ample vestibules on each side of the main auditorium. From each of these side entrances are thrown off two stairways leading to the galleries above.

The stage having an area of 6,000 sq.ft. and capable of seating 600 people is also semi-circular in plan with a large room for the storage of seats etc. at either side. The orchestra pit is entered from passages under the stage which are reached by stairways



shown on each side of the stage.

Directly back of the stage is the large assembly hall with one of the smaller waiting rooms on either side of it. Across the passage leading to the rear entrances from each of these two last mentioned rooms are the dressing rooms arranged in two tiers with a stairway at one end and a toilet room at the other end of each tier.

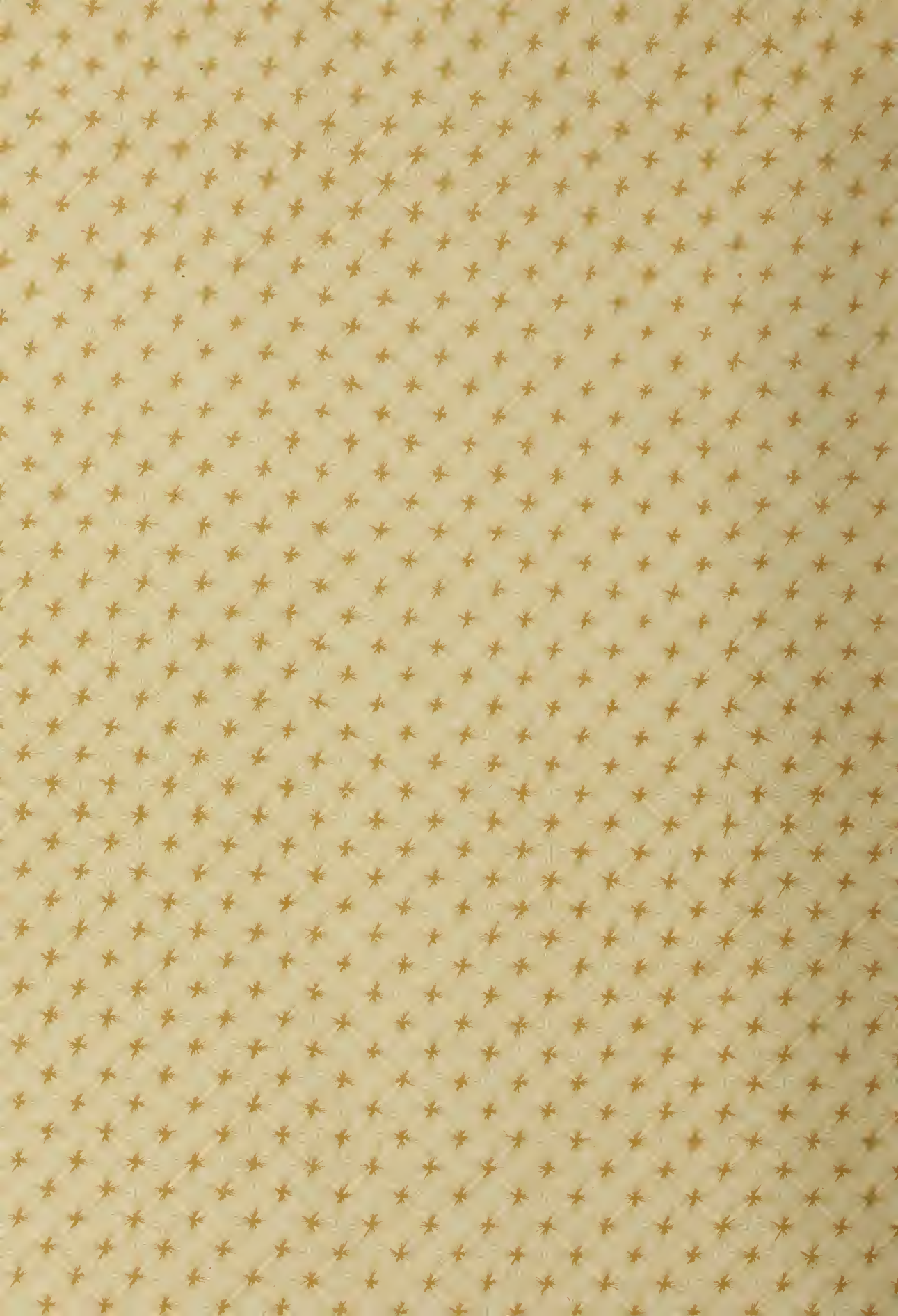
The large banquet hall was placed on the second floor directly over the grand vestibule. The scheme shown on the plan was used to keep the end windows on axis and still allow the accessory rooms to be taken off one side. The banquet hall has in connection with it, two toilet and coat rooms and two serving rooms.

Easy and well lighted communication is provided between the front and rear portions of the building around the auditorium proper, and thrown off from this passage on each floor are two large, well-lighted, public toilet rooms. At the rear ends of this passage at the gallery levels is placed a janitor's room.

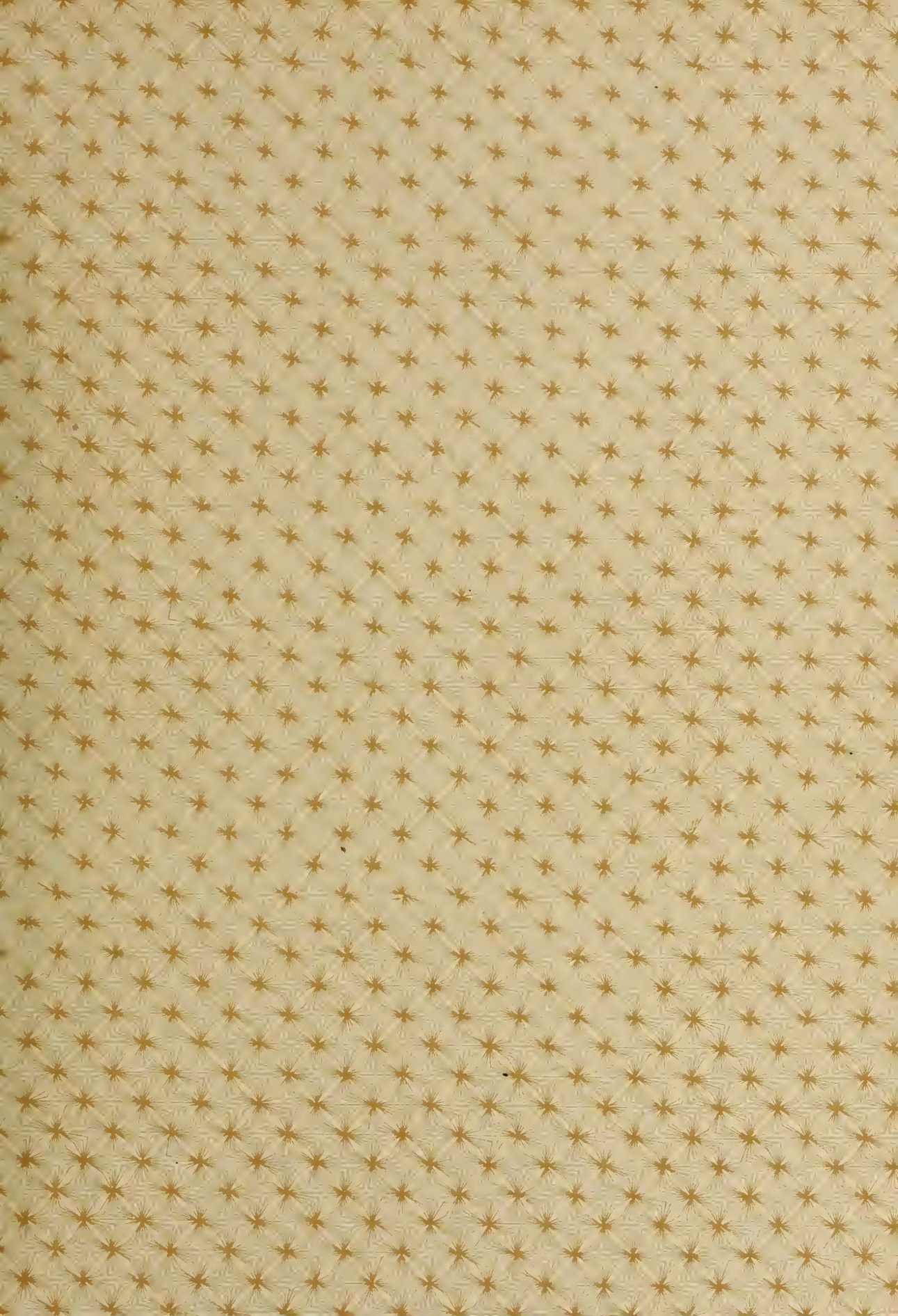
The extreme length of the building including steps is 309 feet, the extreme width, 111 feet.

The design contemplates a building which surpasses in size and appointments any college building for similar use in America.

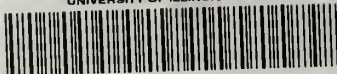








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